

What is Claimed is:

1. A method of processing communication packets comprising:  
assigning a first communication packet to a first communication data  
5 structure which is unique to a first connection that comprises said first  
communication packet;  
selecting a first event list from a database, said first event list selected  
based on a classification of said first communication packet, said first event list  
identifying a first plurality of communication modules specific for said first  
10 connection and an ordering thereof; and  
processing said first communication packet through said first plurality of  
communication modules based on said ordering.
2. A method as described in Claim 1 further comprising classifying  
15 said first communication packet to determine which communication modules  
are required for processing thereof, said classifying performed before said  
selecting.
3. A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said first  
20 communication packet is an initial communication packet of a plurality of  
communication packets of said first connection.
4. A method as described in Claim 3 further comprising:  
accessing a second communication packet of said first connection;

accessing said first communication data structure to identify said first event list associated with said first connection;

processing said second communication packet through said plurality of communication modules based on said ordering.

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5. A method as described in Claim 4 wherein said communication modules comprise function call interfaces.

6. A method as described in Claim 4 wherein said communication  
10 packets are send communication packets.

7. A method as described in Claim 4 wherein said communication packets are receive communication packets.

15 8. A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said first data structure comprises a first pointer to the first communication module of said first event list and a second pointer which points to the currently processed communication module during said processing of said fist event list.

20 9. A method as described in Claim 1 further comprising:  
assigning an third communication packet to a second communication data structure that is unique to a second connection that comprises said third communication packet;

25 selecting a second event list from said database, said second event list selected based on a classification of said third communication packet, said

second event list identifying a second plurality of communication modules specific for said second connection and an ordering thereof, wherein said first plurality of communication modules is different from said second plurality of communication modules; and

5           processing said third communication packet through said second plurality of communication modules based on said ordering of said second event list.

10           10.    A method as described in Claim 9 wherein said third communication packet is an initial communication packet of a plurality of communication packets of said second connection.

15           11.    A method as described in Claim 10 further comprising:  
              accessing a fourth communication packet associated with said second connection;

              accessing said second communication data structure to identify said second event list associated with said second connection;

20           processing said fourth communication packet through said second plurality of communication modules based on said ordering of said second event list.

25           12.    A method as described in Claim 9 wherein said second data structure comprises a first pointer to the first communication module of said second event list and a second pointer which points to the currently processed communication module during said processing of said second event list.

13. A method as described in Claim 9 further comprising classifying  
said third communication packet to determine which communication modules  
are required for processing thereof, said classifying of said third communication  
5 packet performed before said selecting of said second event list.

14. A method as described in Claim 9 wherein said communication  
modules comprise function call interfaces.

10 15. A method of processing communication packets within a  
communication framework comprising a first plurality of modules, said method  
comprising:

assigning a first communication packet to a first communication data  
structure which is unique to a first connection that comprises said first  
15 communication packet;

selecting a first event list from a database, said first event list selected  
based on a classification of said first communication packet, said first event list  
identifying a second plurality of modules specific for said first connection and an  
ordering thereof, wherein said second plurality is a subset of said first plurality;  
20 and

processing said first communication packet through said second plurality  
of modules based on said ordering.

16. A method as described in Claim 15 further comprising classifying said first communication packet to determine which modules are required for processing thereof, said classifying performed before said selecting.

5 17. A method as described in Claim 15 wherein said first communication packet is an initial communication packet of a plurality of communication packets of said first connection and further comprising:

- accessing a second communication packet of said first connection;
- accessing said first communication data structure to identify said first
- 10 event list associated with said first connection; and
- processing said second communication packet through said second plurality of modules based on said ordering.

18. A method as described in Claim 15 wherein said first data

15 structure comprises a first pointer to the first module of said first event list and a second pointer which points to the currently processed module during said processing of said first event list.

19. A method as described in Claim 15 further comprising:

20 assigning an third communication packet to a second communication data structure that is unique to a second connection that comprises said third communication packet;

selecting a second event list from said database, said second event list selected based on a classification of said third communication packet, said

25 second event list identifying a third plurality of modules specific for said second

connection and an ordering thereof, wherein said third plurality is a subset of said first plurality and wherein further said second plurality is different from said third plurality; and

processing said third communication packet through said third plurality of  
5 modules based on said ordering of said second event list.

20. A method as described in Claim 19 wherein said third communication packet is an initial communication packet of a plurality of communication packets of said second connection and further comprising:

10 accessing a fourth communication packet associated with said second connection;

accessing said second communication data structure to identify said second event list associated with said second connection;

processing said fourth communication packet through said third plurality  
15 of modules based on said ordering of said second event list.

21. A method as described in Claim 19 wherein said second data structure comprises a first pointer to the first communication module of said second event list and a second pointer which points to the currently processed  
20 module during said processing of said second event list.

22. A method as described in Claim 19 further comprising classifying said third communication packet to determine which modules are required for processing thereof, said classifying of said third communication packet  
25 performed before said selecting of said second event list.

23. A communication system comprising:

a) a first plurality of communication modules for processing communication packets;

5 b) a database comprising:

a first event list indicating a second plurality of communication modules for processing communication packets and an ordering thereof and wherein said second plurality is a subset of said first plurality; and

10 a second event list indicating a third plurality of communication modules for processing communication packets and an ordering thereof and wherein said third plurality is a subset of said first plurality and is different from said second plurality;

c) a classifier for classifying respective communication packets and based thereon for assigning respective communication packets to one of said first and second event lists for processing thereof and wherein communication packets of a common communication connection are processed through the same event list.

24. A communication system as described in Claim 23 further

20 comprising a plurality of data structures, each data structure associated with a respective communication connection and indicating an event list to be used for processing communication packets of said respective communication connection.

25. A communication system as described in Claim 24 wherein said communication modules are function call modules.

26. A communication system as described in Claim 24 wherein said  
5 communication packets are send communication packets.

27. A communication system as described in Claim 24 wherein said communication packets are receive communication packets.